

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SCCT-01 SY-05 OPR-02 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04

SIL-01 /080 W

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P 282318Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7476

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ UNN

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONSUL TIJUANA UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 3672

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MX

SUBJECT: TERRORISTS ROB BANK; TWELVE KILLED

1. TWLEVE PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE 23RD OF SEPTEMBER COMMUNIST LEAGUE ROBBED A MEXICO CITY BRANCH BANK APRIL 25. THE ROBBERS TOOK DOLLARS 24,000, LEAVING BEHIND EIGHT POLICEMEN AND THREE CIVILIANS SHOT DEAD IN A TWENTY-MINUTE GUN BATTLE. ONE TERRORIST WAS KILLED.

2. POLICE RECOVERED SEVERAL CARS USED IN THE ROBBERY, EACH CONNECTED WITH DYNAMITE SET TO EXPLODE WHEN IGNITION STARTED. POLICE FOUND 23RD OF SEPTEMBER LITERATURE IN CARS, THOUGH THIS TIME NONE WAS DISTRIBUTED

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BY ROBBERS (A USUAL PRACTICE). ON BASIS OF PROPAGANDA

FOUND, IDENTIFICATION OF TERRORIST KILLED, AND TENTATIVE IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS, POLICE CONCLUDED ROBBERY WAS WORK OF 23RD OF SEPTEMBER GROUP.

3. INITIAL NEWS REPORTS SAID POLICE DETAINED UP TO SIX OF THE TERRORISTS. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS HAVE NOT CONFIRMED THIS.

4. COMMENT: ON APRIL 8 A GROUP CLAIMING TO BE THE 23RD OF SEPTEMBER ROBBED A BREAD SHOP IN MEXICO CITY, GETTING DOLS 20,000, BUT THERE WERE NO DEATHS OR INJURIES.

*FOUR DAYS LATER POLICE ARRESTED SIX PERSONS, ALL ALLEGEDLY MEMBERS OF THIS TERRORIST GROUP. APART FROM THAT INCIDENT, THIS IS FIRST SIGNIFICANT TERRORIST ACTIVITY SINCE BOMBINGS JANUARY 26-27.

5. WE HAVE HEARD GOM IS WORRIED ANNUAL MAY DAY FESTIVITIES MAY BE OCCASION FOR VIOLENCE, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY EXCLUSIVELY OF TERRORIST ORIGIN. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA SEVERAL DAYS AGO WARNED CTM (MAJOR LABOR ORGANIZATION) TO ENSURE NO AGITATORS PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE. SEVERAL NON-CTM UNIONS SAID APRIL 27 THEY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE DUE TO POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE. JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MURDER, PARAMILITARY FORCES, BANKS, EXTORTION, TERRORISTS, COMMUNISTS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO03672
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750149-0102
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750411/aaaaaklx.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORISTS ROB BANK; TWELVE KILLED
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MX, 23RD OF SEPTEMBER
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006